REGIONAL UKRAINE RESPONSE

SITUATION REPORT #12 30-31 MARCH 2022

6.48 million

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

4.02 million

REFUGEES FLEEING UKRAINE

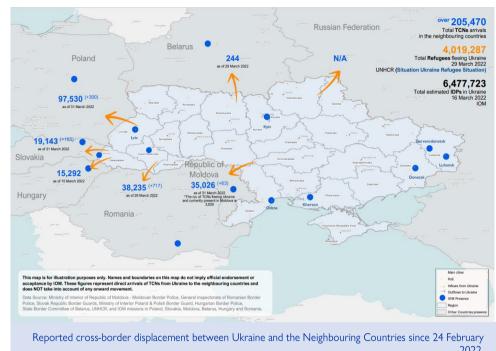
205,470

THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS HAVE ARRIVED IN POLAND, SLOVAKIA, AND MOLDOVA

350 million USD

FUNDING REQUIREMENT





SITUATION OVERVIEW

Since the Russian Federation invaded Ukraine's eastern Donbas region on 24 February, major attacks have been reported across Ukraine, including in the capital, Kyiv, resulting in widescale destruction of infrastructure, loss of life, and displacement.

The situation in the country continues to deteriorate, with ongoing shelling in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Chernihiv, Zhytomyr, Kherson, and Khmelnytskyi regions. On 29 March, 15 people were reportedly killed and 35 were injured when a Mykolaivska oblast administration building was hit by an airstrike, with rescue work continuing in the following days. On 30 March, new attacks were reported on the outskirts of Kyiv and in the northern city of Chernihiv. OHCHR is reporting that between 24 February and 29 March, there have been 3,090 civilian casualties, including 1,189 people killed, though these figures are likely to be considerably higher (source: OCHA).

As ongoing fighting continues, the most intense hostilities continue to be reported in the government controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, while airstrikes increasingly target strategic fuel stocks and industrial facilities, including sites in Khmelnytska oblast (western Ukraine), where an airstrike on 29 March destroyed the fuel depot at the town's airport. From

29-30 March, amid intense hostilities and constant explosions, the Luhansk oblast administration reported the presence of escalating forest fires across large swaths of land in Aidar, Mykolaivka, Kreminna, Lysychansk, Tsarivka and Zolote-1. In addition to a loss of electricity experienced in the town of Sievierodonetsk due to shelling, a high-pressure gas pipeline was damaged in nearby Lysychansk, interrupting the gas supply for around 35,000 users in Bilohorivka, Lysychansk, Novodruzhesk, Pryvillia, Shypylivka and Zolotarivka.

The increasing intensity of the war has contributed to growing internal displacement and cross-border movement. As of 31 March, over 4.01 million refugees have fled Ukraine. On 30 March, Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister reported that during negotiations with the delegation of the Russian Federation, the Ukrainian delegation put forward a proposal to open humanitarian corridors to the most affected 97 settlements in Kharkiv, Kyiv, Kherson, Chernihiv, Sumy, Zaporizhzia, Donetsk, Luhansk, and Mykoliav regions. The following day, the Deputy Prime Minister indicated that the Russian Federation had confirmed to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) its willingness to allow the opening of a potential humanitarian corridor from the city of Mariupol (south-east of the country), a primary site of concern due to the widescale destruction of infrastructure and loss of life.

IOM RESPONSE

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

With the overall objective of providing safe, dignified and sustainable living conditions and shelter solutions in conflict-affected areas and along highly transited borders, IOM provides temporary shelter assistance and non-food item support to affected internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and third country nationals.

In **Ukraine**, IOM is continuing with the distribution of in-kind assistance to IDPs residing in temporary shelters in Ukraine. The mission distributed 8,800 hygiene kits in Zaporizzhya, Zakarpattia and Dnipro regions, with an additional delivery to be organized in Chernihiv. Distribution of the USAID-BHA consignment continues, with an additional 7,000 thermal blankets distributed in Zakarpattia, Lvivska, Ivano-Frankivska, Mykolaivska, Khmelnitska and Dnipropetrovska oblasts, totalling 18,375 blankets distributed since the start of the war.



IOM Ukraine receives a shipment of blankets and other goods to be distributed to internally displaced Ukrainians residing in temporary shelters.
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In Belarus, IOM works closely with implementing partners to meet the increasing needs of new arrivals transiting the Ukraine-Belarus border. On 31 March, the mission delivered 75 hygiene kits and 75 food kits to the Belarusian Red Cross, to be distributed to refugees and third country nationals (TCNs) from tents placed along the border. The mission is making arrangements to transfer additional supplies stored in Grodno to partners operating at the border.

PROTECTION

Through both its regional and in-country responses, IOM intends to strengthen the provision of individual protection assistance and case management to persons with specific needs and vulnerabilities.

In Romania, on 30 March, IOM completed a training session with local authorities and those providing direct assistance on the legal framework applicable to migrants and refugees currently residing in Romania, including specific assistance and protections that may be provided to Ukrainians in the country and the social services available at the local level. There were 25 participants from municipalities, the Social Directorate, the Health Insurance Directorate, and employment agencies.

In **Belarus**, IOM runs a hotline to provide support for safe migration and counter trafficking in coordination with its NGO partner, "Business Women Club," located in Brest city. The hotline has received an increased number of requests connected to the war in Ukraine over the last few days. During the reporting period, the hotline received a total of 121 calls, 22 of which were related to the war (20 per cent of inquiries). In response, IOM is scaling up its support to NGO partners operating near the border, particularly the Belarusian Red Cross, to anticipate the needs of arrivals.

In **Ukraine**, IOM manages regional hotlines to ensure the safety of individuals on the move. From 24 February to 30 March, the National Toll-Free Counter-Trafficking and Migrant Advice Hotline "527" provided 20,779 consultations in response to 4,400 calls received. About 62 per cent of the calls were placed by internally displaced persons, with 40 per cent being men and 60 per cent being women. To supplement the hotline, IOM Ukraine has distributed over 165,000 leaflets on counter trafficking, mental health and psychosocial support services, and the temporary protection directive in 12 regions of Ukraine and at border crossing points since the start of war. The mission also translated a Gender-Based Violence (GBV) pocket guide into Ukrainian, to provide guidance on how to support a survivor of gender-based violence when access to referrals or services are unavailable.



An IOM staff member places a poster on counter-trafficking resources near a Border Control Point in Ukraine. © IOM 2022

SITE MANAGEMENT

IOM aims to provide support to national governments and partners in transit, reception and collective centres and with reception conditions in targeted countries.

In **Poland**, on 30 March, IOM established a new information point in Mlyny, near the Korczowa border crossing point. On the first day of operation, Ukrainian refugees and third country nationals primarily sought information on transportation options within Mlyny and to other parts of Poland.

In **Ukraine**, IOM continues its assessments of displacement sites to further inform its interventions and improve the privacy and dignity of displaced persons. To date, 30 collective centres in Zakarpattia region have been assessed. Temporary shelter options are currently being discussed with the local authorities in key displacement areas and IOM is actively looking at alternatives to camp settings, with special attention to the installation of modular houses.

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

IOM continues to conduct flow monitoring and rapid needs assessments and collect data on cross-border displacement at key transit and border crossing points, which is regularly shared with partners.



IOM Belgium conduct rapid surveys to assess the needs of third country nationals arriving in the country. © IOM 2022

In **Belgium**, IOM has begun conducting rapid surveys of TCNs arriving from Ukraine. A resulting <u>report</u>, published on 29 March and covering the period of 22-26 March, is the first in the country aimed at better understanding the demographics and needs of TCNs arriving beyond countries neighbouring Ukraine.

In Moldova, IOM's displacement tracking team is participating in the drafting of national contingency planning scenarios for

Moldova, including the provision of updates on entries to the country, exits to Romania, and workload trends at the main BCPs on the Ukraine-Romania border. During the reporting period, the mission conducted 3,822 surveys with local partner CBS, in partnership with UN Women, at four BCPs and three transit centres in Chisinau.

In Poland, IOM conducts mobility and intentions surveys at several border crossing points to inform activities and supplement joint interventions. Since the start of the war, the mission has collected 656 surveys. Of those households interviewed, demographics show that 45 per cent are children (23 per cent boys and 22 per cent girls), 49 per cent are adults between the ages of 18 and 65 (4 per cent male and 45 per cent female), and 5 per cent have members over the age of 65 (4 per cent female and 1 per cent male). Approximately 40 per cent of the persons interviewed intend to remain in Poland while 46 per cent intend to travel onwards to other EU countries and 11 per cent are unsure of their future travel plans.

HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION

As refugees and TCNs cross into countries neighbouring Ukraine, IOM continues to facilitate transportation assistance within the receiving countries as well as onwards movement for resettlement and family reunification.

In Poland, IOM received multiple requests to provide transport assistance for both Ukrainian refugees and third country nationals. The mission facilitated the departure of ten vulnerable persons from the Mlyny reception centre to Germany while four additional persons were provided with transportation to other parts of Poland. IOM is currently coordinating with relevant partners and local authorities to facilitate transport for a 17-year-old unaccompanied minor staying at Mlyny. Cases of unaccompanied minors entering the country from Ukraine continue to be reported and require special supervision, assistance, and coordination, as the



Refugees and third country nationals continue to arrive in Poland as IOM scales up its response to cover new and emerging needs. © IOM 2022



concern for human trafficking increases among UN agencies and partners in Poland. The mission is scaling up activities in counter trafficking and protection for minors, among other areas.

MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

Through IOM's regional intervention, the most vulnerable populations will be able to meet their immediate basic needs through multi-purpose cash assistance.

In Moldova, on 28 March, IOM provided multi-purpose cash assistance to 62 refugee families in two Refugee Accommodation Centres (RAC) in Criuleni. To date, 561 vouchers have been distributed in 25 centers in Chisinau, three centers in Anenii Noi, and two centers in Criuleni, benefitting 546 refugees and 15 TCNs. The transfer value of each voucher is MDL 1000 and can be redeemed at Linella and Fidesco supermarkets throughout the country.

ASSISTANCE VOLUNTARY RETURN **FOR** THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS

IOM works closely with partners, consular officials, and local authorities to disseminate information on voluntary return support for third country nationals, as well as provide temporary assistance for stranded TCNs.

In Ukraine, IOM is providing support through information, assistance and advocacy campaigns to TCNs in Ukraine as well as to foreign nationals with family members in the country. To date, such support has been extended to more than 3,000 persons and will continue in the coming weeks.

In Romania, IOM has received 51 requests to assist TCNs stranded in the country since the start of the war. In total, 38 persons have received assistance from the mission in coordination with consular officials and local authorities, with 23 Ghanian nationals, nine Armenian nationals, three Lebanese nationals, and three Egyptian nationals receiving support to return to their countries of origin. The mission continues to coordinate with embassies of countries of origin with a diplomatic presence in Romania and weekly coordination meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

IOM APPEAL STATUS

IOM's Flash Appeal for Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries, which was launched on 02 March 2022, requests USD 350 million over the course of six months to meet the needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP), migrants, third country nationals (TCN) and other vulnerable populations, as well as hosting communities in Ukraine and its neighbouring countries, including Belarus, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. IOM has also created a separate Flash Appeal solely for Ukraine based on its inputs into the inter-agency appeal. As of 31 March, IOM has received approximately USD 130.3 million, which represents confirmed funding and is exclusive of

USD 1 million from the Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism (MEFM) and USD 0.3 million in reallocated funds.*

Intervention areas include: Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI). Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Protection, Health (including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)), Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance, Food Security and Livelihoods (including integration support), Site Management Support, Displacement Tracking, Humanitarian Border Management, Voluntary Humanitarian Return for Third Country Nationals, and Supply Chain. IOM has also created a separate Flash Appeal for Ukraine based on its inputs into the inter-agency appeal.





























Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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